

Gorge Dam Project Update  
10/9/2019

SMP – Chuck, Mike Johnson, Elaine March  
Akron – Heather Ullinger, Pat Gsellman  
Jacobs – Julie Schucker, Marty Reif  
Cuyahoga Falls – Toney Demassie  
USEPA – Mary Beth Giancarlo, Mark Loomis, Karla Auker

**Jacobs Update**

SAP comments being addressed. Had call with MB and Karla to review comments and responses. Red line version of SAP will be distributed to USEPA by end of this week.

Site recon was useful. Focus of recon was Chuckery Area.

What is the ability of the sewers to withstand the weight of the drill rigs?

Drill rigs will be track mounted and weigh 10-30 tons. Heather sent some information but we don't have enough to determine load bearing capacity of the sewers. Heather is uncomfortable giving permission to drive over 100 year old brick sewers. Akron can give Jacobs the weight of the vehicles that drive over particular sewers and Jacobs can analyze the information for Akron's review. Akron wants Jacobs to incur the liability for the sewers. Jacobs will likely choose to come in on Peck road and enter area without going over sewers. We may widen the right of way that runs north-south through the Chuckery area and drive beside the sewer. Chuck said East Ohio Gas has an air bridge – maybe Jacobs can use it or something like it. Jacobs will likely avoid the sewers and just create longer access routes.

The longer access route may be parallel to the sewer that runs along Peck road. That access route will not need to be restored. SMP wants the objective of the restoration to be deterring the public from roaming the inner area of the Chuckery. Metroparks will conduct restoration as part of their match. They will likely place brush across the access points that go off the Chuckery Trail and the sewer access that runs N-S.

Some soil borings have been moved from the wetland areas to locations further west.

Special Use Permit (SUP) from SMP to cover field surveying. Access agreement will cover all the other activities. Access agreement is with USEPA attorney. SUP will be sent to SMP early next week. Access agreement might not be sent until the 23<sup>rd</sup> or so, based upon the availability of the USEPA attorney.

Heather has started the License Agreement with Akron for the use of the Power House area for river access and equipment staging. License agreements are usually about 2.5 pages long and contain standard language. Heather will send example to Mary Beth.

Field Team Subs are lined up to start the beginning of Nov., including the Bathymetric survey. We need the leaves to fall before the topographic survey can be completed.

Design of Containment Area:

Wetlands may necessitate a change in the design of the containment area. We may need to avoid the wetlands or fill and replace them. The location of the sewer and how much load it can hold may affect

the design too. Once we get the results of the data gaps assessment, midwinter, we'll have a workshop to figure out what the final containment area will look like. Chuck from SMP reminded Jacobs that we will need to work with (?)

Mike Johnson said SMP has known about wetlands in the Chuckery and assumed they would be filled and mitigated. He thinks the regulatory agencies will be okay with filling the wetlands. SMP full wetland delineation will be completed in the next two weeks.

Chuckery Trail cuts across area so it will need to be closed during construction. What does SMP want to do with the trail; realign or re-establish it in the current location? They would prefer to put it back where it is. Mike Johnson said SMP knows there will be significant closures of the Gorge and Chuckery areas and they are prepared for it.

**Akron will replace Chuckery sewers:**

72" is a CSO storm sewer and cuts across the Chuckery area (north-south) and empties into the River. What the City will do with it has not yet been determined.

48" sewer is the one in Peck road and is a combined sewer which will be upsized (abandoned and replaced) but alignment has not yet been determined.

The whole sewer in the Chuckery area will be reconfigured on the same time line as the disposal area. We can work together so the sewer design considers the Disposal area.

Heather says we need a separate call about..... (Dam removal application?) MaryBeth will send out a notice. Payment plan with Akron and ODNR.

Cuyahoga was designated as the 13<sup>th</sup> State of Ohio Water Trail. Designation has the potential to open up additional funding.

SMP wants a separate call with EPA & Jacobs to talk about how we will deal with media inquiries – what our plans are, what the message is, and how we want it presented.

Mary Beth will send out a poll to see whether the 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds of the month at 11:30 still works for everyone.